



FOFA Gallery

**Nancy Barić  
& Steven J. Yazzie**

*The Nearness of  
Distance*

March 4th – April 12th, 2024

Vernissage  
March 21st, 5-8 pm  
+  
Artist Talk at 6 pm

Monday to Friday  
11 am to 6 pm

Tiohtià:ke / Montreal  
1515 St-Catherine West,  
H3G 2W1, EV 1-715  
514 848-2424 #7962

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From March 4th to April 12th 2024, the FOFA Gallery hosts the work of **Nancy Barić & Steven J. Yazzie**.

*The Nearness of Distance* brings together films by Nancy Barić and Steven J. Yazzie, centering relationships with land and water. Alternating between documentary style representation, and abstract imagery and sound, the two films explore issues of representation, ecology, and stewardship. The films interweave personal, collective and historical narratives, while speaking of connection and disconnection due to colonialism.

**Nancy Barić**

*Electric Water* (2021)

Single-channel video installation (25 minutes)

*Electric Water* is an experimental documentary and a meditation on the poetics and politics of water. It moves between Barić's Dalmatian heritage from the Adriatic Sea and the Haudenosaunee perspective on Niagara Falls. While our connection to water is disrupted by pollution, dams, and the tourist's gaze, there are stories and insights that lead back to water's power and teachings.

**Steven J. Yazzie**

*Mountain Song* (2015)

Single-channel video installation (11 minutes)

*Mountain Song* is part of a series of video/film installation work exploring Diné/Navajo sacred mountains. Structured in four verses, the film explores Indigenous knowledge, mystery, resource exploitation (uranium), and post-colonial reflections on community life. Conversations I recorded with elders, friends, and community members are set against the backdrop of a personal journey to a sacred Diné/Navajo mountain, Dibé Nitsaa, in southern Colorado, eventually ending at a mountain outside my backyard where I once lived in Phoenix, Arizona. Concurrently throughout the film, the radio chatter of the first humans landing on the Moon in 1969 (Apollo Mission) can be heard. The intersection of moon landing audio, Indigenous stories, and aerial views of tribal territories echo memories of our shared histories while complicating the experience of the perpetual outsider with subjective indigeneity.





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**Nancy Barić** is a filmmaker and a visual artist living and working in Tiohtià:ke/Montréal. Her films are featured in the collections of The Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema and La Grande Bibliothèque in Montréal. Her last fiction film, *Veronika*, was short listed for Toronto's International Film Festival's (TIFF) Best Canadian Shorts Top Ten. Her films have been featured in magazines such as *24 images*, no. 131 (Canada, Quebec), *Let's Panic* (United States), and *Terra Firma*, no. 2 (United Kingdom).

@nance.baric

**Steven J. Yazzie** (Diné/Pueblo of Laguna/European decent) is a multi-disciplinary artist working with video, painting, sculpture, and installation environments. He is the co-founder of Digital Preserve, a video/film production project prioritizing collaborations with Indigenous communities, and arts and cultural institutions. He was a founding member of the Indigenous arts collective, Postcommodity. Yazzie's work has been exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art, National Museum of the American Indian, National Gallery of Canada, Art Gallery of Ontario, the Museum of Contemporary Native Art, and the Heard Museum.

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